(c) whether it is also a fact that production of such drugs enjoy a situation of obligation and the reasons recorded by Kelkar Committee are neither justified nor based on facts;

(d) steps being taken to get these drugs included in category I; and

(e) the names of producers of each of these drugs, their installed capacity and production during last three years year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (d) The vaccines required for E.P.I. were recommended for price control by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals and the recommendation has been reiterated and the matter taken up with them. The increase in price of drugs and formulations is monitored by the Ministry of Industry.

(e) Names of producers, installed capacity and production of drugs and vaccine is monitored by the Ministry of Industry.

Omission of drugs from the list for treatment of Trachoma

4266. SHRI . DAYANAND SAHAY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1910 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 11th May, 1988 and state:

(a) what are the reasons for omiting Chloramphenicol, Neomycin, Sulphate, Polymixin-B-Sulphate, Framycetin Sulphate, Dexamethasone, Betamethasone, Flucinolone etc. from the list of drugs required for Trachoma and Control of Blindness;

(b) whether it is a fact that usage of these drugs is 100 times more than the usage of Tetracycline and Hydrocortisone for the same purpose;

(c) whether it is a fact that Tetracycline eye preparations and Hydrocortisone preparations account for a total sale of Rs. 3 lakhs in the country where as the sale of Framycetin and Polymixin alone is over Rs. 3 crores;

(d) what are the names of the officers and technical experts who recommended inclusion of Tetracycline and Hydrocortisone in the list at the cost of other drugs; and

(e) whether it is a fact that Tetracycline drops do not exist in the form of drops whereas most of the excluded drugs exist in this form?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) For Trachoma and Control of Blindness commonly used effective drugs have been selected.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. These drugs are used for a number of other eye conditions also which have no direct relevance to Trachoma and other schemes under the National Programme for Control of Blindness. The sale of different drugs is not being monitored under the National Programme for Control of Blindness.

(d) The experts from Directorate General of Health Service made these recommendations on consideration of commonly used effective drugs.

(e) Yes, Sir.

Drugs purchased for blindness control programme

4267. DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantity of varfous drugs purchased for Trachoma and blindness control programme during the last three years; year-wise,

(b) whether it is a fact that Tetracycline ointment and Hydrocortisone eye preparations are rarely used on account of their irritating character to the eye;

(c) whether it is a fact that in most of the cases instead of eye ointment, drops are used;